THE

King's Majesties LETTER

TO

His PARLIAMENT

OF

SCOTLAND,

Met at *Edinburgh*, 28 of July, 1670.

WITH

His Grace the Lord Commissioners

SPEECH

To the said

PARLIAMENT.

Published by His Majesties Command.

In the *SAVOY*,

Printed by *Tho: Newcomb*, 1670.

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Met at Edinburgh the 8 of July, 1670.

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SPEECH

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BIBLIOTHECA·BODLEIANA·

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THE Kings Majesties LETTER TO His Parliament of SCOTLAND, Met at *Edinburgh*, 28 of *July*, 1670.

CHARLES R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE *manifold Experience We have of your Loyalty and dutiful Affection to Our Person and Service, especially in your late Session, invites Us on all occasions to signify to you, how sensible We are thereof. It is Our constant Study to do it by Acts of Our Royal Care of the Concerns of that Our ancient Kingdom, the Peace and Welfare whereof are very dear to Us. At present, We know not how to express both better, then by acquainting you with the clear confidence We have, of the constant continuance of your ready concurrence in every thing We do design for the Publick Good, whereof you gave Us, in your last Letter of the twenty third of* December, *renewed Assurances. In pursuance therefore of the Proposal We made to you, at your first Meeting, of a nearer Conjunction of these Our two Kingdoms of* Scotland *and* England, *by as strict an Union as possible can be attained, We*

have commanded Our Commissioner to minde you of effectuating all those Particulars you so readily offered, in order to a Treaty for accomplishing the desired Union, wherein We and Our Houses of Parliament here, not only have freely concurred, but have done every thing else that is thereto requisite, in behalf of this Our Kingdom of England. *It remains therefore, that you perform, as they have, what is further to be done by you; And you may be confident, nothing will be Wanting on Our part, that by Gods blessing may render the Treaty effectual. You will find Our Commissioner, to whom you shall give entire Trust, sufficiently instructed by Us in all other matters, that either We could think on, or you can desire, for maintaining the setled Government of Church and State in its Lustre and Security, by making such Laws as may be found yet further necessary for the preservation of Peace and Union in that Our Kingdom. For effectuating whereof, We know your Zeal to Our Service will lead you to do all that is requisite on your Part, as Our Affection to you and all Our good Subjects there, carries Us to intend nothing with greater Fervour, then what We judge conducible to your common Welfare, wherein We account Our own inseparably concerned. And so We bid you heartily farewel. Given at Our Court at* Whitehall, *the seventh day of* July, *one thousand six hundred and seventy, and of Our Reign the twenty two year.*

C.R.

His Majesties COMMISSIONERS SPEECH TO THE PARLIAMENT OF *SCOTLAND*,

Met at *Edinburgh*, *July*, 28. 1670.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

His *Majesty* hath been Graciously pleased, by His Letter which you have now heard, so fully to renew the expressions of His constant and continued care of this His ancient Kingdom, His confidence of this Parliament, and His sense of the Zeal to His Service, which you manifested in your last Session, that there is little left for me to say at this time. I need not repeat the assuran-

ces of His *Majesties* constant and unalterable Zeal, for maintaining and defending the true Reformed Protestant Religion in this His Kingdom; And that with no less Zeal and Constancy, He will maintain the ancient Government by Archbishops and Bishops, now happily restored and established here: For, in all the exercises of His Royal Authority, he doth daily give full and undeniable Testimonies thereof.

At the opening of the first Session of this Parliament, I told you in His *Majesties* Name, that He would not endure those numerous and unlawful Conventicles that tend to Sedition and Schism, which had been too frequent in some Shires of this Kingdom; and the King did then require you, and all in Authority under Him, vigorously to suppress such Meetings, and to bring the most Guilty to condign punishment. In prosecution of which, the Lords of the Privy Council have done their Duty carefully, though not with that success which they desired: For, His *Majesty* hath been informed, that this Summer, divers seditious and numerous Conventicles have been kept, even in the open fields, which look liker endeavours to rendezvous for Rebellion, then any pretence of Religious Worship; and that in high contempt of His *Majesties* Authority, and of this Parliament, which they well knew was so soon to assemble. Yea, such hath been the insolent barbarity of that incorrigible sort of Non-conformists, that in some places, the Houses of Orthodox and Peaceable Ministers have been rob'd, their Persons and Families wounded, and they threatned to be murdered, if they stay at their Churches.

Therefore, His *Majesty* doth most seriously recom-

commend it to your ſpecial care, by good Laws and vigorous proſecution of them; to curb, puniſh and prevent thoſe ſeditious Conventicles; to cure the with-drawing of Proteſtants from their Paroch-Churches and the Ordinances there, which is the occaſion of thoſe Conventicles, and cannot be pretended for Conſcience, but muſt be eſteemed only out of deſign, to perpetuate Faction and Schiſm (ſeeing the form of Worſhip here is the ſame which hath been ſince the Reformation) As alſo, to puniſh exemplarly thoſe barbarous Roberies and Aſſaſſinates, committed againſt honeſt and peaceable Miniſters; and generally to provide what you ſhall think neceſſary for continuing the Peace of the Kingdom. The work will be eaſy, and I doubt not your care in it. The Kingdom generally is Loyal, Peaceable and Dutiful; it is but a ſmall part of it which is tainted with ſuch Principles and Practices; and I am fully inſtructed to give the Kings Royal Aſſent to theſe, or any other good Laws you ſhall think neceſſary in this Seſſion.

But, your firſt work is, to perfect what remains to be done toward the Treaty of the Union. The King did ſeriouſly recommend it to you at your firſt meeting, and you did dutifully declare your hearty concurrence; and in Order thereto, your willingneſs that Commiſſioners be appointed for this Kingdom, to treat with ſuch as ſhould be imployed for the Kingdom of *England*, upon the Grounds and Conditions of the Union, reſerving alwayes to the Parliament, the allowing and diſ-allowing the ſame, as they ſhall judge fit. You did alſo freely and heartily offer to His *Majeſty*, the nomination of the perſons to Treat for this Kingdom, with the appointing the

the Number, *Quorum*, Time and Place of their meeting: Since that time, the two Houſes of Parliament in *England* have as heartily concurred, and as freely left the Perſons, *Quorum*, Time and Place to His *Majeſty*; And farther, His *Majeſty*, by and with their Advice and Conſent, hath paſt an Act of Parliament, Authoriſing the Commiſſioners for the Realm of *England* to Treat. The Act it ſelf is in Print: moſt of you, I think, have ſeen it; and I am confident, you will cheerfully paſs ſuch another Act, which ſhall be prepared at the Articles againſt your next meeting: And I aſſure my ſelf, His *Majeſty* will, out of His Fatherly care of both His Kingdoms, name ſuch Perſons as ſhall be fit for going about ſo good a Work.

FINIS.